

THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

ENERGETIC ACTION OF THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

THE BLOCKADING SQUADRON.

Full List of Ships Purchased and Chartered by the Secretary of the Navy.

SLOOPS AND GUNBOATS BUILDING.

LIST OF WAR SHIPS ON THEIR WAY HOME.

Vessels Captured by the Blockading Squadron.

VESSELS NOW FITTING OUT.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NAVAL FORCES.

Atlantic and Gulf Squadrons.

Atlantic Squadron.

Gulf Squadron.

Pacific Squadron.

North Atlantic Squadron.

South Atlantic Squadron.

West India Squadron.

Mediterranean Squadron.

Home Squadron.

Total.

On Potomac River.

On Chesapeake Bay.

On Delaware Bay.

On Long Island Sound.

On Narragansett Bay.

On Buzzards Bay.

On Cape Cod Bay.

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FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

The Naval Expedition.

From Our Special Correspondent.

FORTRESS MONROE, OLD POINT COMFORT, Aug. 26, 1861.

There should be no apprehensions about what terrible things the Merrimack may do. At best she is but a floating battery. Her machinery was thoroughly broken up, and whatever use should be attempted to be made of her, she would have to be towed. There is not the slightest probability, I am sorry to say, that she will attempt to leave Norfolk to come further than Craney Island. No contrivance which the Rebels have been able to rig can stand the shower of shots that would be poured into her. Her battery, at best, is not equal to that of the Cumberland, is excelled by the Minnesota and Wabash, while the guns of the fortress, and the Union gun, within a few hundred yards of which she would have to pass, would sink her inevitably. The Union would do it alone. It is hardly probable that we are to have any such good luck as a fair chance at the Merrimack or any other of the boats cooped up at Norfolk. Therefore the idea of sinking vessels with blocks of granite in them (wouldn't blocks of any other kind of stone do as well?) to prevent her coming out into the Roads, is not favored here. If the writer who makes the suggestion can bring about that which he would prevent and seems to dread, he would confer a favor on those who view things from a different and nearer standpoint.

The Coast Expedition, in relation to which and its destination so much has been said in the newspapers, and which has probably been delayed at least one week by foul weather, will get off to-day. There probably will be no objections to its being stated that the expedition will include the Wabash, the Harriet Lane, the Monticello, and other first-class gunboats, beside the bay steamers Adelaide, Peabody, the propeller Fanny, &c., which in addition to transporting troops will tow a number of sail vessels. Commodore Stringham will command the naval and Gen. Butler the land forces. The destination of the expedition is the coast of North Carolina, with the view of destroying a battery at a certain point, and closing the inlets through which they reach the open sea with vessels from Norfolk through the Dismal Swamp Canal and Albemarle Sound.

Lieut. Crosby returned on Saturday evening from another expedition to the east shore of the Chesapeake Bay. He penetrated a considerable distance to the interior in row boats, and found the Union sentiment the prevailing one, in many localities. The Rebels receive but little aid and comfort from the inhabitants, as a general thing, though there are those who have engaged in supplying them with the produce of the country. This business is now nearly broken up. Lieut. Crosby brought back a small schooner engaged in that traffic, which he captured in one of the streams that lead out of the bay.

[By Telegraph.]

FORTRESS MONROE, Tuesday, Aug. 27, 1861.

Another flag of truce came from Norfolk this morning to inquire after that which came yesterday, and was detained till 4 p. m. to-day.

The 23 released prisoners and nine ladies were sent to Norfolk. Our naval expedition having doubtless reached its destination, no further detention was necessary.

The flag of truce brought down Capt. Humes and crew of the ship A. B. Thompson, of Harnswick, Me., captured May 19 off Savannah bar, and taken into Beaufort, S. C., by the privateer Lady Davis.

Two ladies from Norfolk say that the Confederates have lately assembled in large force near Sewall's Point, anticipating an attack from Old Point.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM VIRGINIA.

CINCINNATI, Aug. 25, 1861.

Some information lately received by me from private sources, relating to matters in Virginia, confirm the apprehensions of those who look to Matthias Point and Eastern Maryland as our present sources of danger. (N. B.—The Baltimore semi-secession papers declare that the Rebels aim at Rosecrans! Times Denies, &c.)

The threats of an advance above Washington, or immediately on it, are, without doubt, and, indeed, the plan of the Rebels has been changed by the exhibits which the calls for more troops have made of the weakness of the Capital. To my certain knowledge, the chief feature of their plan was, two weeks ago, the occupation of Eastern Maryland, and the uprising of Baltimore, as previous conditions of assault on Washington.

And the latter city was in no case to be assaulted, at any great risk, unless Baltimore could be secured; then the blow was to be instantly struck.

About the first of this month a large number of secessionists from St. Mary's and Charles Counties, met with the military and civil officers of the S. C. A., near Stafford Court-House. Chief among them, I give to say, was Thomas Stone of Haverdventure, Port Tobacco, Md., the grandson of Thomas Stone, signer of the Declaration of Independence. This Thomas Stone is a man of much influence in Charles County, and his collusion with the conspirators of Virginia is an indication that his whole county is rotten.

He has many relatives residing within a few miles of Aquia, on the Virginia side. These men have come over to represent the advantages of Charles County as a place for hostile movement, which, especially considering the disloyalty of its residents, is justly regarded as very great. There is but little doubt in my mind, and I have traveled through the country, that unless the Maryland shore of the Potomac is thoroughly watched, an army may be and will be thrown into Charles County; and once there, I believe they might find a path toward Baltimore so deserted and covered as to come within reinforcing distance of that city unobserved. Nor do I believe that the occupation of Port Tobacco would prevent this, unless the whole of the almost deserted region following the bend of the Potomac from Port Tobacco round to the Fishing Shore, opposite Aquia, were filled with scouts. Such gentlemen of leisure as Thomas Stone have hunted throughout those regions until they can safely offer themselves to Beauregard as pathfinders for the army, which they have done.

The army in Virginia had a double inducement to direct its movements toward the Lower Potomac—one being that above indicated; the other being that it was found that the river was the best commissary they could get. It is now the height of the fishing season—especially the season for soft and hard crabs, in which articles all Southerners delight. These, added to the numberless wild ducks, &c., which blacken the creeks, will for a long time keep the army there suffering for food. The seizes are con-

stantly at work, and abate, herring, &c., plenty. Indeed, the army has not suffered for want of food to any extent, though the ravages of every variety of sickness have been remarkable.

It is very strange to me that the Government does not at once take toward these secessionists of the Potomac region the most determined attitude. They are deceiving the Government of the United States and the Governor of Maryland by making no open organization, while they are really ruining the authority of both in that State. The copperheads of their own swamps are not more stealthy and deadly. The country has just learned with some mortification that a slave has been returned at Rockville, Md., by military authority; which, if true, was against the decision of Congress that this was no part of the duty of our military arm, and also against the spirit of the recent order to Gen. Butler. But what I, for one, most dislike about that rendition is that it looks like a method which has been adopted toward Maryland secessionists. Rockville is the county seat of Montgomery County, and is situated in and representative of the secession half of that county. The northern part of that county is under strong Quaker influence, and is for Union; the entire portion bordering the river—from Tennytown up to Urbana—is treacherous. (This region was greatly corrupted by a Methodist preacher of the Baltimore Conference, named Nelson Head, who, after imbruing a virulent hate of the North in the minds of the numerous Methodists there, nearly every one of whom are for secession now, joined the Virginia Conference.) Now, these Rockvillians might indeed do our country much harm, stretching along the river as they do; and if the mixture of the war and slave-catching departments of the Government took place there, it must have been for the sake of concealing these secret traitors. Allow me to say that this course, or "policy," which makes such people only despise the Government the more, is not so honorable or expedient as that which policy is simple strength and authority. Might not our Government justly, and should it not at once, say to these Counties (Montgomery, Charles, and St. Mary's), "Gentlemen, above and below! We have some reason to fear that you are dealing treacherously with this Government. The Government has been hitherto unsuspecting of you, and left you to yourselves; it would be, therefore, a very base treachery on your part if it is ever confirmed. Now, understand well the method we shall pursue toward you at the first outbreak. We have no Port McHenry threatening you, as we have near Baltimore; but we have another and more terrible sort bearing on you, which we shall certainly use if it is needed. Therefore, the moment that it is understood that you are betraying Baltimore and the capital into the hands of the Rebels, that instant every slave in your county lines shall be proclaimed free, and shall, if your safety demands it, have a sword put into his hands. That is the way we will shell your county and your State if it threatens the life of the nation. If there are any among you too loyal to be deprived of their property, they will prove it by watching the disloyal, and seeing that the Republic receives no detriment in their midst."

Would that not be a humane and bloodless way of conquering treason around the capital? John M. Daniel, whose Sardinian experiences have trained the stern virtue which was so shocked by the sensuality of our soldiers, was offered the position of Visitor to the Confederate Congress; but the labor was too actual and the payment too ideal for the ex-minister. The offer was made to *The Examiner* because it was the first and most violent secession sheet in the State.

When it was declined, the place was given to Richard M. Smith, who obtained it on account of his heroic running out of Alexandria and losses thereby. This Richard M. Smith is a native of Warrenton, Va., where for years he edited *The Flag of '98*. He has always been a leading and shouting Methodist, and signaled himself when the division of the M. E. Church took place by his violent attitude toward the Methodist Church North. He has his reward.

—In a recent letter on the probabilities of insurrection in Virginia, I gave you an account of the Lacy slaves, and how they were robbed of their liberty. I will just add here that the slaves so defrauded were 93 in number, and that they have all, except a very few feeble or aged ones, been sold to the far South—chiefly Arkansas.

The slaves in the region of Aquia are now laboring hard in many ways for the army, and are apparently loyal. This is due immediately to the presence of a large army under the head of a tar-and-feather-looking man with the appropriate name of Capt. Lynch, but still more to the systematic falsehood which has been at work. They have been told that our army was for their extermination—told it by men in whose piety they have always believed, and justifying the lie by the plea of a life-and-death necessity. Thus we have enemies at the South in our natural friends; and the eagerly-seized-and-read proclamations of our leaders about negroes, and the tidings of our slave-hunting, have really done us a harm whose results may be more than we imagine. Perhaps it is thus we are to be reminded once more that "man never puts a chain about his brother's neck but God is sure to fasten the other end of it about his own."

FROM MISSOURI.

Families Leaving the State—Official Reports of the Rebels—2,400 Wounded Still in Springfield—A Religious Newspaper Exhorted—Admiral in the South-West—Gen. Fremont Moving Arkansasward.

From Our Special Correspondent.

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEPARTMENT, St. Louis, Monday, Aug. 26, 1861.

A caravan of old-fashioned Virginia wagons, drawn by horses and mules, and containing a few rude chairs, bedsteads, and kitchen furniture, passed through town yesterday. They were occupied by workmen from the South-West, with their wives and children, who, "forced from their homes, a melancholy train," are seeking in free Illinois, that protection which, since the inauguration of civil war, the Government is unable to give them in Missouri. Fifty thousand would be a very moderate estimate of the number of inoffensive and law-abiding persons who have fled from Missouri to obtain protection for themselves and their families, since the traitors lighted the fires of rebellion. Deserted farms, depopulated villages, and flying families, who have been robbed of nearly all their property, tell the story of the result of attempted secession in Missouri.

The official reports of the several divisions of the Missouri portion of the rebel army in the

battle of Springfield have been received. Gen. J. H. McBride went into the field with 605 men, of whom 72 were killed, 10 mortally wounded, 67 badly wounded, and "many others slightly." Gen. Rain's division reports 56 killed, 186 wounded, and 60 missing. Col. J. R. Graves lost 38 killed, 120 wounded, and 41 missing. Gen. John B. Clark, out of 290 men, lost 17 killed and 71 wounded. Gen. Clark is the Congressional Representative from the Third Missouri District, who was expelled at the last session. He is the same individual who introduced the resolutions condemning Helper's "Impending Crisis of the South" during the session of 1859-60, which advertised that admirable work so widely, at no expense whatever to the publishers. When he was on his way to Washington last November, just after the secession eruption commenced in South Carolina, I rode upon a railway train with him for several hours, and he professed the most earnest and uncompromising Union sentiments. He does not seem to find wandering after strange gods a very safe course, judging from his mortality list. Col. J. T. Hughes reports that of the 650 men in his command, 36 were killed, 76 wounded and 30 missing. As yet we have no reports from the Arkansas, Texas, or Mississippi Regiments.

A gentleman just from Springfield reports that there are still 2,000 of the enemy's wounded, and 400 of ours, there—converting the city into one grand hospital, where the patients actually outnumber the entire population. In spite of all reports to the contrary, permit me to reiterate that Gen. McCulloch is not killed, but is still at Springfield.

Under the administration of Provost-Marshal McKinstry, St. Louis is probably to-day the most quiet and orderly city upon the Continent. On Saturday, two voluble secessionists, who publicly expressed the desire that all our soldiers might be killed, and boasted of their fidelity to Jeff. Davis, were sent to Cairo to work upon the fortifications for thirty days. *The St. Louis Christian Advocate*, an organ of the Methodist Church South, and more particularly of the Gospel according to Jeff. Davis, has been very bitter in its treason, and done more to aid and comfort the Rebels than any secular paper in the State. It has received a brief but emphatic note from the Marshal, advising it that its tone is subversive of public order, and detrimental to the welfare of Missouri and the Union, and that, unless it changes, it will promptly be suppressed.

One of your correspondents is responsible for a gratuitous homicide in my letter of the 19th ult., wherein he makes me state that the remains of Gen. Lyon were interred in Springfield, beside "the body of the Hon. John S. Phelps." Col. Phelps is not only still in the flesh, but—if comparisons of vitality are allowable—is one of the most live men in Missouri. Please read that Gen. Lyon's remains were buried upon his farm.

The free use of liquor among some of our volunteer and regular officers in this Department is producing the most pernicious results. If the first officer found intoxicated were to be drummed out of the service, it would have a happy effect.

FROM GEN. FREMONT'S COLUMN.

From Our Own Correspondent.

IRONTON, Iron Co., Mo., Aug. 25, 1861.

On my way hither from St. Louis last Friday, the train was near De Soto when a suffocating smoke came rushing in at the open windows, much to the annoyance of the passengers, among whom were a liberal number of uniformed and capulet gentlemen. The train was instantly stopped (for, be it known, this was not the Lightning Express), and I stepped ashore to view the conflagration. A mischievous spark, not prone to fly upward, had sought repose upon a tarpaulin which covered such freight on a flat car as friction primers and cartridges, and the tarpaulin and freight were shortly in a blaze. Consternation prevailed among many of the passengers upon learning the proximity of the fire and powder to themselves, and some indulged in the not very consoling reflection that their train was going much further than Ironton, and perhaps in quite a different direction. But the burning material was thrown overboard before it had communicated with the powder, and the train again moved on.

Wm. Holloman, one of the rebels wounded in the recent skirmish near Potosi, died on the 23d. He was very sorry that he had taken up arms against the Government, and sent messages to some of his camp friends, begging them to desert and return home.

At Dent Station we met a number of officers and men of the Missouri 2d Regiment, who participated in the battle of Booneville. They have named their new post "Camp Jessie Fremont."

Iron Mountain, 60 miles from St. Louis, is a place of 400 or 500 inhabitants, and the center of an iron tract three miles square, belonging to Chouteau Harrison & Valle of St. Louis. 500 hands are employed cutting wood, digging ore, and running three furnaces, which turn out 34 tons of iron per day. A majority of the dwellings are common huts, but a few are neat and commodious. A small brick church, in a natural grove, is used by all denominations, the Roman Catholics excepted. A plank road connects Iron Mountain with St. Genevieve on the Mississippi, 40 miles due east.

The usual activity prevails in military quarters here, and before this can reach New-York we shall be moving toward the Arkansas line. The troops are all kept in camp and drilled thoroughly every day.

A company of cavalry were sent yesterday to Farmington. They returned last evening, bringing a few guns. They took several prisoners, but released them all upon oath. During their absence, four or five Union men from that place arrived here to ask protection of General Prentiss, having been ordered to leave by prominent secessionists. General Prentiss, last evening, sent notice to six citizens of Farmington to bring here at once, without injury or insult, at their (the Rebels') own expense, the families of those who had complained to him, together with such moveables as they desired. If the order, which is signed "Truly, &c.," is not complied with, General Prentiss declares an example shall be made of them, and people shall learn that Union men cannot be driven out with impunity.

Gen. Fremont and his Policy.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 24, 1861.

Missouri, next to Virginia, has suffered most since the commencement of the rebellion; her cities, fields, woods, and prairies, have echoed the tread of tens of thousands of armed men, and in hundreds of places her soil has been drenched with human blood. From the start, a majority of her inhabitants have been as loyal as those of any State north of the Ohio River; but unfortunately some of her State officers, particularly her Governor, made use of their position to poison the

minds of some of those who elected them to office, and the result of their efforts can be seen in the devastation which has spread over many parts of the State, as well as in the hundreds of widows and orphans, who are now mourning for their lawful protectors. No good reason can be assigned for the beginning of the troubles with which Missouri has been afflicted since Jeff. Davis and his confederates unfurled the Rebel flag, although the demagogues and their blind followers—those who had everything to gain and nothing to lose by the overthrow of the then existing state of affairs—were in league with the sworn enemies of the Government, nine-tenths of the people were thoroughly devoted to that Union in which they and their families had enjoyed numberless blessings, and to the starry flag under which many of them had gallantly fought on foreign soil. But in consequence of the promulgation, by Gov. Jackson, of the doctrine that the Constitution of the United States was subordinate to that of Missouri, many of those who at one time professed to be loyal, and who had expressed themselves in favor of the preservation of the Union at all hazards, changed their minds and allowed themselves to be seduced from their allegiance by the cry of State Rights. Gov. Jackson, who at one time claimed to be a good Union man, and his confederates, not for several months advocate the secession of Missouri; they only claimed, under the seductive cry of "State Rights," the privilege of enacting laws contrary to the Constitution of the United States, and their Jesuitical appeals to the masses, to resist what they termed the tyrannical acts of the Administration and some of its military officers, were in many instances favorably responded to by men who are now considered perfectly loyal in thought, word and deed. The Governor's proclamation of June 12, calling out 50,000 troops, opened the eyes of a large number of his dupes, and his recent Declaration of Independence, by which he makes Missouri a power independent of the government that created it, has shown to others of his followers that he has arrived at the point for which he has been aiming at ever since he perjured himself by swearing, as Governor of Missouri, to bear true allegiance to the Government of his native country.

In the central part of the State everything is quiet, and likely to remain so. The disturbances in the northern part of the State have pretty much ceased, although trains are occasionally fired into between Hannibal and St. Joseph. But the course taken by the commanding officer of that division, of quartering troops upon counties in which such outrages occur, has been attended with excellent results; and if persisted in it will undoubtedly insure peace and safety to the residents of every county between the southern boundary of Iowa and the Missouri River.

That portion of the State lying between the Ozark Mountains and the northern boundary of Arkansas is in possession of the Rebels, but it will doubtless change hands before the fall of the first frost in September.

Gen. Fremont has done an immense amount of work since he took charge of this Military Department, and his labors still continue. He is making out his plans and providing himself with everything needed in the way of troops, provisions, transportation, etc., for a march toward the Gulf of Mexico; and you may rest assured that after he gives the order of "forward march," he will not say "about face" while a single rebel flag floats between Cairo and the delta of the Mississippi. He has the entire confidence of the Army of the West and the Union inhabitants of his Military Department.

In our city but a few weeks since the lives of those who avowed themselves in favor of the Union were not safe. But how sudden the change!—for when it was announced that the gallant Pathfinder had been assigned to this Department, the spirits of the secessionists fell to zero, and the hearts of all Union people beat high with hope, for in Gen. Fremont was universally recognized that untiring energy and perseverance of character which have distinguished his brilliant and successful career from boyhood; and those who were personally acquainted with him could not refrain from telling their friends and neighbors incidents of his past life, and glorying in the fact that he possessed all the elements of character needed by a commanding officer of so vast a department as this. His knowledge of the Valley of the Mississippi, and of the people of the West, will be turned to good advantage, and you may rest assured that he will give an excellent account of himself and of his command.

When the news of the battle in which the lamented Lyon fell was received in this city, Gen. Fremont, with that promptness characteristic of the man, declared martial law in a proclamation that will live in history—short, decisive and to the point. Major McKinstry, Quartermaster of this Department, entered upon the duties of Provost Marshal, issuing his orders with great promptness for the regulation and government of the city. Gen. Fremont showed his penetration of character by selecting this able and accomplished officer to perform the arduous and responsible duties of Provost Marshal. Major McKinstry will be remembered as one of the gallant officers who distinguished themselves in the hard-fought and well-contested battles before the City of Mexico, where our arms were triumphantly sustained. He has had much experience as an officer and soldier, and will be remembered by early residents of California as one of the most popular members of his profession in that State, ten or a dozen years ago. With a quick and ready mind, he is abundantly capable of performing the arduous duties pertaining to the office of Provost Marshal, without neglecting his business as Quartermaster. He tries and disposes of cases that are brought before him, with as much promptness as if he were giving the order for a charge in battle; but though he decides promptly, he investigates carefully, and orders the arrest of no one without sufficient proof. Under his rule our city is as quiet as a New-England village. No longer does the desperate promenade our principal streets, with his bowie-knife and revolver in sight, threatening to cut out the heart of every man who will not burn for Jeff. Davis; no longer are our brave soldiers, while marching through the city, cursed by the rabble, and shot from behind church pillars and through second-story windows; no longer do members of the gambling fraternity flourish as in time past; and no longer are Union men told that if "they do not look sharp they will be driven across the Mississippi." A few examples which the Provost Marshal has made, in giving sentences of one week on bread and water and ninety days at hard labor on the encampments at Cairo, under a burning sun, have cooled the ebullience of St. Louis, and taught them what they did not seem to be aware of, that martial law, when expounded and administered by such a man as Major McKinstry, is not to be trifled with.

The officers of this Department are fully alive to the importance of a prompt, decided and vigorous line of policy, and you may rest assured that the Great West and the Valley of the Mississippi are in safe hands. Let the Government but do its duty in providing the necessary means, and Fremont and his command will write their names upon the hearts of the American people, never to be erased so long as the English language is read or spoken.

If the same vigorous policy inaugurated in Missouri by the brave Lyon, and continued by Fremont and his subordinates, had been pursued at the commencement of the rebellion, thousands who are now in the ranks of the Rebel army would have been found true to their country. But it does no good to mourn for the past all we have to do is to look out well for the present and the future. Let us endeavor to forget the mistakes that have been made, and resolve that none shall follow them; and let us each and all again pledge ourselves to sustain our Government and its officers until they have been torn by rebels and traitors.

THE BATTLE OF SPRINGFIELD.

REPORT OF JAMES TOTTEN, CAPTAIN SECOND REGIMENT ILLINOIS, COMMANDING LIGHT CO. F.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Aug. 11, 1861.

Sir: In obedience to instructions, I have the honor to make the following report relative to the part taken by my company in the battle on Wilson's Creek, Aug. 10, 1861.

Light Company F, 2d Regiment of Illinois.